



Old Fletton Urban District Council.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

upon the

Sanitary Condition of the District

during the year 1950.





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## To the Old Fletton Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the sanitary conditions of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

The report has been constructed on similar lines as last year's report, as requested by the Ministry of Health.

### STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health ..... H. PATTINSON, M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H.  
Resigned 30th November 1950.

F. D. F. STEEDE, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.  
Commenced 5th December 1950.

Sanitary Inspector ..... S. HAIGH, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

The general health of the District remains good and it is noteworthy that there was only a single death of an infant below the age of 1 year during the year. Notifications of tuberculosis show an increase which can be attributed in the main to the application of newer methods of diagnosis.

Early diagnosis is of great importance in prevention for an actual or potential source of danger is removed before spread to contacts, especially young children occurs, while as far as the case itself is concerned the earlier stage responds as a general rule very favourably to modern methods of treatment.

The position as regards tuberculosis, however, is one in which there is no room for complacency as the rising cost of living and overcrowding are two factors which seem very difficult to remedy and are among the most important in fostering the disease—a disease which attacks the young adult, leaving a trail of death and invalidism. The Council, however, are taking the only steps which they can at present by examining each case individually, and where there is a special risk of infection doing what they can to re-house where necessary.



Recreational facilities in the District are substantially the same, though there is good prospect of the provision of more playing-field space in the near future.

The Old People's Club, now in its 4th year, is a very flourishing body and it is good to see recognition of the needs of the aged. The success of this body is due very largely to the enthusiasm and hard work put in by its voluntary helpers.

I should like to express my gratitude to those, and especially to the Members of the Council and my professional colleagues, who have contributed so largely by their co-operation, and help to make my task a pleasant one.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area .....	3029 acres
Estimated Population (mid 1950) .....	8058
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1950 .....	2403
Rateable Value .....	£45,453
Value of Penny Rate 31/3, 1950 .....	£172

LIVE BIRTHS

Birth Rate per 1000 population .....	15.4
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STILL BIRTHS

Rate per 1000 total births .....	40.3
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DEATHS

Death rate per 1000 population .....	10.1
Deaths from Puerperal Causes per 1000 total (live and still) births .....	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births .....	8.1
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .....	8.9
Illegitimate „ „ „ illegitimate „ „ .....	Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	12
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .....	Nil

RATES

	Per 1,000 Population				Per 1,000 LiveBirths
	Live Births	Still Births	Crude Death Rate	Stand-ardized Death Rate	Infantile Mortality
Old Fletton	15.4	0.62	10.1	10.8	8.1
England & Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6	11.6	29.8

The following table shows the classification of deaths from all causes (Registrar-General's figures):—

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males	Females	Totals
All Causes.	46	35	81
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	1	1	2
2. Tuberculosis, other .....	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease .....	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria .....	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections .....	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—
8. Measles .....	—	—	—
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases .....	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	3	—	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .....	—	—	—
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	—	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	—	1	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms .....	3	1	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia .....	—	—	—
16. Diabetes .....	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	2	4	6
18. Coronary disease, angina .....	5	2	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease .....	1	2	3
20. Other heart disease .....	17	6	23
21. Other circulatory disease .....	—	2	2
22. Influenza .....	1	2	3
23. Pneumonia .....	1	2	3
24. Bronchitis .....	2	1	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .....	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum .....	2	1	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea .....	—	—	—
28. Nephritis & nephrosis .....	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .....	3	—	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations .....	—	—	—
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases .....	3	6	9
33. Motor vehicle accidents .....	1	—	1
34. All other accidents .....	—	—	—
35. Suicide .....	1	—	1
36. Homicide & operations of war .....	—	—	—

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**

**(a) Laboratory Facilities :**

No change has taken place in the general arrangements during the past year. Bacteriological specimens from Practitioners in the district are examined at the Pathological Department of the Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, or by the Pathological Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

**(b) Ambulance Facilities :**

- (1) For the removal of infectious cases a motor ambulance is available at the Isolation Hospital, Huntingdon.
- (2) For non-infectious and accident cases the area is covered by the ambulance service of the Soke of Peterborough County Council under an agreement with Huntingdon County Council, which is the Local Health Authority responsible. This arrangement is working satisfactorily.

**(c) Nursing in the Home :**

Nursing in the district is carried on by two qualified nurses employed by the Huntingdon County Council. Both nurses are certified midwives and attend the majority of maternity cases under the Domiciliary Midwifery Scheme.

All cases of Tuberculosis are visited by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor and a report with details of home conditions and circumstances is completed.

**(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres:**

Infant Welfare work in the district is still carried out by the Fletton and District Infant and Child Welfare Association by arrangement with Huntingdon County Council. The Infant Welfare Clinic has weekly sessions on Tuesdays from 2 to 4 p.m.

The following additional Clinics are provided :—

School Clinic		
(Minor Ailment)	.....	London Road Clinic, Old Fletton, Every Wednesday 10—12.
Eyes	.....	London Road Clinic. By Appt.
Dental Clinic	.....	High Street, Old Fletton.
Tuberculosis	.....	28, Fitzwilliam St., Peterborough, Every Monday 2—4 p.m. By Appt.



Orthopaedic	.....	.....	Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, 2nd Tuesday in the month. By Appt.
Nose, Throat & Ear Clinic	.....	.....	Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, Every Wednesday at 3 p.m. By Appt.
Venereal Diseases	.....	.....	28 Fitzwilliam St., Peterborough, Women Only—Wednesday 5.30— 7 p.m. New cases and special treatment only. Friday 10—12 noon. Men Only — Monday 4—6 p.m. New cases and special treatment only. Thursday 5.30—7 p.m.
Ante-Natal	.....	.....	London Road Clinic, Old Fletton, 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the Month, 2—4 p.m.

(e) **Hospitals :**

- (1) Fever—The treatment of infectious diseases is carried out at the Hospital for Infectious Diseases at Huntingdon.
- (2) General hospital services including Out-patient facilities are provided at Peterborough Memorial Hospital.
- (3) Provision is made for Maternity Cases at The Gables, Peterborough, or the Maternity Hospital, Paxton Park.



## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

The routine visits of inspection in connection with this work have been carried out as in past years.

## **HOUSING.**

During the year ended 31st December, 1950, the Council completed 54 houses, while a further 15 were erected by private enterprise.

## **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**

During the year extra pressure has been brought to bear on the Ministry of Health and they have now agreed to allow the Council to proceed with their scheme of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

## **WATER SUPPLY.**

The entire District is served by a mains water supply which although of a hard nature is otherwise satisfactory in quality but there is at times a lowness of pressure when the consumption is very heavy and the Council are considering the question of extra storage and pumping plant.

A monthly bacteriological analysis has proved satisfactory in every case.

## **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

Efforts have been continued throughout the year to reduce atmospheric pollution and some improvement has been obtained in the worst cases.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SIR,

I beg to submit my Report for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

## NUISANCES.

Abated as a result of informal action	.....	.....	.....	41
Abated as a result of Statutory action	..	.....	.....	Nil

Analysis	No.	No. of Inspections
Premises	28	28
Smoke Pollution	Nil	Nil
Accumulation of Refuse	2	4
Foul ditches etc.	Nil	Nil
Drains	2	4
Dampness	7	20
Animals	2	2

Offensive trades (Health Act 1936)	No. established	.....	Nil
	No. of inspections	.....	Nil
Food—seizures of unwholesome	No. of	.....	19
	Total Weight	6104 lbs.	
Water Closets	New provided	.....	69
Ashbins	New provided	.....	129

## HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

1	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	.....	.....	25
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	.....	36
2	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (inc. under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	.....	.....	Nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	.....	Nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.....	.....	1
4	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	.....	.....	Nil

### SHOPS AND OFFICES:

No. of shops inspected	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71
Total No. of visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	209
No. requiring additional heating	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
No. requiring additional ventilation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
No. requiring additional sanitary conveniences	.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil

## DISINFESTATION.

No. of houses infested	.....	(a) Council—Nil.	(b) Private—Nil
No. of houses disinfested	.....	(a) Council—Nil.	(b) Private—Nil

## DISINFECTION.

Cases of infectious diseases reported	....	18	No. of inspections	....	18
Rooms disinfected (a) Tuberculosis	.....	4	(b) Others	.....	18
Schools disinfected	.....	Nil			

WATER SUPPLY	{	Samples taken for analysis	.....	12
		„ condemned	.....	Nil
		Wells closed	.....	Nil
		Wells cleansed, repaired, etc.	.....	Nil
		Public supply substituted for well or pond	.....	Nil

## MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Retailers' Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Total No. of inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30

Total Legal Proceedings, <i>i.e.</i> , Summonses, etc.	.....	.....	Nil
Convictions	.....	.....	Nil

## FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1937.

Factories	.....	.....	.....	Total number on Register (including bakehouses)	21
				No. in which nuisances abated	Nil
Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	No. on register	3
				No. in which nuisances abated	Nil
Homework	.....	.....	.....	No. of outworkers	12
Legal Proceedings, <i>i.e.</i> , Summonses, etc.	.....	.....	.....		Nil
				Convictions	Nil

S. HAIGH,  
Sanitary Inspector.



The following table gives the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis) in the area during 1950.

[illegible]

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year there was an increase both in the notifications of measles and whooping cough, this being a reflection of the general level of notifications in the Country generally.

Measles was on the whole mild, and there were no deaths from either cause.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following table sets out the number of children immunised in the district, together with the figure of the total child population:—

UNDER 5 YEARS		BETWEEN 5—15 YEARS.	
Number immunised	Estimated Population	Number immunised	Estimated Population
346	659	913	1019

Tuberculosis.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 .....	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 .....	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35 .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL :—	9	2	—	—	1	—	—	—

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 dealing with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

F. D. F. STEEDE,

Medical Officer of Health.





